

in battle. These bones are now in Bewcastle Churchyard. All the finger and other small bones of the hands were found in the lower part of the trunk, as if the hands had been laid across the body, and had dropped in when the bowels decayed. Some of the teeth were wanting, but there had been thirty-two cavities in the jaws. The skin was still remaining on one of the arms, from the wrist to the elbow, having probably been tanned by the moss-water. One of the thigh bones dropped from the body when it was lifted, and had a large piece of skin still under it. The hair was on the legs, and generally over the body, and had been of a dark red colour. The bones and joints of the spine were all in the right place. The shoulder bones appeared to have been pushed back under the spine, but the right shoulder was not in its proper position. The body had been laid on the left side, and as it was lying north and south it may be supposed that the man had been a Pagan Saxon, for in many of the Saxon graves which have been opened, it is said that the body has been generally found lying from north to south. No minne-token, or carved stone memorial was found near it, but the cairn had unquestionably been a burial place, and must be assigned to a remote period.

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ART. XXXVIII.—*Greystoke Church, Historical.* By C. J. Ferguson, Esq.

*Read at Greystoke, August 15th, 1873.*

GREYSTOKE Church is said to be the most extensive example of the perpendicular style in Cumberland, and consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, south porch, chancel, sacristy (with chamber over), and a western tower. The first account of it, mentioned in the local histories, is in the year 1358, when William de Greystoke, *pro salute animæ*, gave to the Collegiate Church of Greystoke one messuage and seven acres of land at Newbiggen, also the perpetual advowson of the parish church of Greystoke, whereby it seems that the church was a collegiate at or before that time: the first notice of the building itself is in 1382, when it is stated that the church being made out of repair, the wall crazy, the

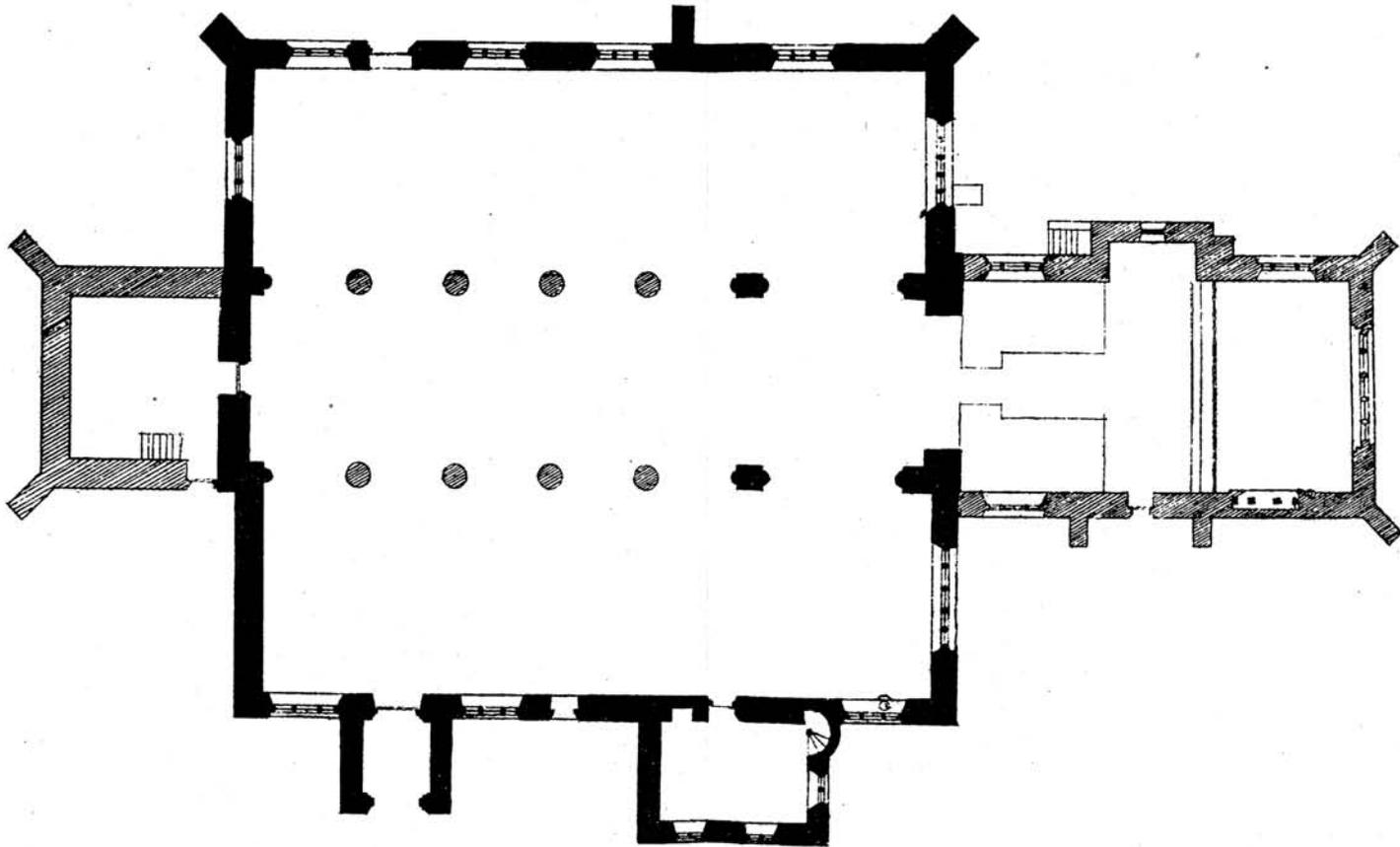
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belfry

belfry fallen in, and the wooden shingles on the roof mostly scattered, the inhabitants of Threlkeld and Wethermeloch were threatened with excommunication unless they contributed to the repairs. This notice is extremely curious, as it is the only instance I know of in which wooden shingles are used as a roof cover in Cumberland, and probably points to some south country influence in the erection of the earlier church. Of this early church the only remains now existing are the chancel arch and others. The early church would stand partially on the same foundations as the present building. Doubtless the nave was of the same width and stood on the same foundation as the present nave arcade. The aisle would probably be of half the width of the present one, with small transepts. The chancel would be of a slightly greater width than the chancel arch. In the same year, 1382, Ralf, Lord of Greystoke, obtained the issue of a commission of enquiry, and the result was that the revenues of the church were stated to be sufficient to maintain two chaplains, the parish priest, and five other priests beside. He, therefore, applied to the Pope for licence to erect the college, and his holiness instructed his legate, Alexander Nevill, Archbishop of York, to comply with the baron's request. This was accordingly done; a college of secular canons was founded, and Gilbert Bowett was instituted provost or master under the title of *magister sive custos collegii perpetui de Graystock*. At the same time six chantries were founded in the church, to each of which a priest was appointed—St. Andrew, St. Mary, St. John Baptist, St. Thomas the Martyr, St. Katherine, and St. Peter. Doubtless after this extension of the foundation the intention of rebuilding the church in its present form was first entertained. I say in its present form, for although the chancel and tower have been since rebuilt, they seem to have been rebuilt on the old plan. Again I cannot help thinking that some south country influence was at work, for we find the architectural progress much more developed than is usual in the north at that time. We find indications of the chantries in the various piscinal or water drains which exist in the north and south aisles, and the chamber over the sacristy may be a living room for an anchorite or priest. The college or dwelling for the chantry priests would probably be on the north side of the church, but on these particulars I will not dwell, as Mr. Lees, of Wreay, who is conversant with every corner of the building, will, I hope, give us the benefit of his knowledge on the subject. Greystoke  
Church

# Ground Plan of Graystoke Church

Ancient Buildings      
Recent    



Scale of  feet

Church contains several monuments of note. The most interesting is not at present *in situ*, but we hope that we may soon see it restored to its place. It is described in Jefferson's Leath Ward as a fine alabaster altar tomb, on which recline two knights, the elder one in plate armour, without a helmet, the younger under a canopy, in plate armour, pointed helmet, and mail gorget, having a lion at his feet. His head rests on a cushion, supported by small female figures. The ancient altar stone still remains at the west end of the church. The bells are ancient and of great interest. One of the chief glories of Greystoke was its stained glass, of which the broken fragments, so judiciously collected in the east window, even now put to the blush any modern glass. Since its collegiate days, Greystoke Church has undergone many alterations. In Bishop Nicolson's time the church is stated to be in a very bad state of repair. In 1817 the tower was re-built, and in 1818 some extensive repairs were made. The piers of the nave arcade were all renewed, and Jefferson states were heightened considerably. In 1848, the chancel was re-built by the munificence of Mr. Howard.

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ART. XXXIX.—*Greystoke Church, Descriptive: its Vestry or Recluserium, and its Monuments.* By the Rev. T. Lees, of Wreay.

*Given at Greystoke, August 15th, 1873.*

ON the occasion of the Society's visit to Greystoke, the party alighted at the entrance leading to the rectory, and under the guidance of the Rev. T. Lees, of Wreay, proceeded to the churchyard. Mr. Lees gave an interesting description of the exterior and interior of the building, of which the following is a summary. He pointed out a corpse path and an ancient well, in the field at the north side of the church, which is called the "Spillers," no doubt from suicides, those who have "spilt" themselves being buried on that side. The ancient bridge and sanctuary stone on the road leading to the village, the foundations of the ancient college and old rectory, and the traces of terraces in the field south-east of the church, were next alluded to. The old college building seems to have been pulled down,